



Washington State
Department of Transportation

State Route 167 HOT Lanes Pilot Project – Fast Facts

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Commuters are saving time with HOT Lanes

Commuters on State Route 167 are benefitting from high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes. In 2008 WSDOT converted high occupancy vehicle lanes (HOV) into HOT lanes on SR 167, allowing solo drivers to use the lane by paying an electronic toll with a *Good To Go!* pass. Since the project started in 2008, rush hour travel times have decreased in both the general purpose and HOT lanes despite increased traffic volume.

With HOT lanes everybody wins

- HOV drivers still have priority to use the lanes without charge
- HOT lane customers have the option to pay for a more reliable trip
- Drivers using the general purpose lanes are experiencing reduced travel times

HOV drivers still have priority to use HOT lanes without charge

HOV drivers including carpools, vanpools, transit and motorcycles can use HOT lanes free of charge and enjoy the benefits of free-flowing travel and fewer collisions. Preliminary data indicates a 17 percent decrease in collisions, despite increased traffic volumes.

HOT lane customers have the option to pay for a more reliable trip

More and more drivers are choosing to pay a toll for a reliable free flowing trip in the HOT lanes. The average toll is between \$0.75 and \$1 per trip. HOT lane usage doubled during the second year of the pilot project from 30,000 to 60,000 vehicles making tolled trips.

Drivers using general purpose lanes are experiencing reduced travel times

As more drivers choose to use HOT lanes, stop-and-go traffic decreases, resulting in higher speeds and volumes in the general purpose lanes. Since the project started, traffic speeds and volumes have increased in both the general purpose and HOT lanes, saving drivers up to eight minutes during rush hour (7-8 a.m. and 4-5 p.m.).

General purpose lanes:

- Average speeds increased by 11 percent
- Average volumes increased by 2 – 3 percent

HOT lanes:

- Average speeds remained at or above the posted speed limit (60 mph)
- Average volumes increased by 12 percent



HOT lanes ridership and revenue are growing

Revenue from HOT lanes is growing steadily. HOT lanes are averaging \$50,000 per month in revenue since June 2010, a nearly 50 percent increase from the year one average of \$26,000. Revenue from HOT lanes covers approximately 50 percent of operating costs and is expected to completely cover costs by early 2011.

HOT lanes benefit everyone

People who choose to use the HOT lanes save time on their daily commute, while reducing the burden of traffic in the general purpose lanes. The end result is improved traffic flow which benefits everyone traveling on SR 167.

For more information on SR 167 HOT lanes

Website:

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/SR167HotLanes

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